



MARINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER



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The Marine Safety Newsletter is published by the USCG Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Directorate to collect and disseminate information that is of general interest to the maritime community. The monthly Newsletter prints abstracts of major USCG rulemakings, studies, special projects, and related events. Articles from non-Coast Guard sources may not represent USCG policy or views.

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NEWS

USCG Successfully Prosecutes the First Class II Civil Penalty under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990

RADM John W. Lockwood, Thirteenth Coast Guard District Commander, announced that the Coast Guard successfully prosecuted the first Class II civil penalty case to be brought under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. On March 4, 1996, a \$95,000 civil penalty was assessed against Shanghai Hai Xing Shipping Company. The company owned and operated the *MOTOR VESSEL AN PING 6* which spilled approximately 2,000 gallons of Intermediate Fuel Oil into the Columbia River near Longview, Washington, on January 10, 1994. Rear Admiral Lockwood noted that the company had an extensive violation history including 39 previous violations of pollution prevention regulations and two previous minor oil spills. This made the case ripe for selection as first in the nation to be prosecuted under the OPA Class II civil penalty scheme. The increased penalties under the Class II system help ensure that polluters will be held accountable.

RADM Lockwood praised the investigation leading to the successful prosecution of the case. He said, "This case sends a strong message to the maritime industry that the Coast Guard will require, through enforcement, compliance with pollution regulations to better ensure a safe and clean environment."

Earth Day— April 22, 1996

Earth Day is a day to reflect on environmental issues. Earth Day was first designated on April 22, 1970 and is an ideal opportunity to recognize every individual's environmental role and responsibility. This year's theme is "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle." Focus events will be sponsored by local communities and governments. USCG field units will participate in promoting Coast Guard's Environmental Policy, "A Commitment to Environmental Excellence." This will include: beach clean ups, park clean ups, highway clean ups and hazardous materials response training, as well as, community events. Earth Day participation is encouraged.

IMO Port State Control Procedures Guidelines Published

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) resolution on guidelines on Port State Control Procedures is now available. The guidelines are intended to provide basic guidance on conduct of Port State Control inspections to aid in achieving consistency in the conduct of these inspections and to improve ship safety worldwide. They will assist in recognition of deficiencies of a ship, its equipment, or its crew, and the application of control procedures. While they are prepared as guidance for port state control officers and port state administrations they give excellent insight to ship operators subject to port state control inspection. Understanding this guidance can be used to prepare for such inspections as well as to facilitate the boarding teams when they are on board. An electronic version of this document can be obtained on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.dot.gov/dotinfo/uscg/hq/g-m/gmhome.htm>.

Applications of PTP

The message is getting out and people are responding. One of the Coast Guard's latest endeavors, the Prevention Through People (PTP) program, is gaining support from a variety of communities. PTP focuses on awareness of the human element to create a reduction of casualties and pollution in the marine industry. A new safety culture is forming and examples of its new attitude are surfacing everyday.

At Marine Safety Office St. Louis, an initiative called the Passenger Vessel Safety Program is creating partnerships between the Coast Guard, vessel operators, and state, community, and local response organization. Through this Coast Guard sponsored program, these groups are working together to ensure the safety of

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passengers and crew on riverboat casino vessels. The program's four phased approach, which centers on Outreach, Training, Planning and Response, applies the PTP objective of focusing on the human element to prevent casualties. Results have been encouraging. Drills have been conducted which allow vessel and response personnel to combine their efforts and prepare themselves to react efficiently to a casualty.

PTP has taken on a new acronym in Deer Isle, Maine, where the Island Fishermen's Wives Association (IFWA) has created their own group to assist in marine safety. The group was formed to help fishing families in need, by providing financial and emotional support. The IFWA's efforts are effectively creating a safer environment for the fishermen by preventing casualties before they happen. The money raised by these women is paying for the building of a new swimming pool where the fishermen can learn to swim and use their survival equipment, and IFWA's annual Fishermen's Day provides an arena where safety is promoted through games and demonstrations - PTP in action. The Coast Guard has taken part by giving lessons in fighting fuel fires and making rope ladders and by lecturing on safety procedures. This focus on prevention through safety knowledge and training is the sort of cultural change PTP is trying to foster in all areas of maritime industry.

These and other programs are just the beginning. As the PTP message is spread, the total safety culture is created by concerned individuals in the marine community including Coast Guard personnel, industry leaders, mariners, shoreside workers, vessel owners and operators. By working together, they are bringing the PTP vision to life.

RADM Card Promotes PTP at CMA Conference

Rear Admiral James C. Card, Chief of Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Directorate, recently spoke at the Connecticut Maritime Association's conference where he addressed the Prevention Through People (PTP) program. He highlighted some of mariner's concerns about the reduction of human-error marine accidents and environmental pollution. Central to the speech was RADM Card's message of increased awareness and a shared commitment of safety between the Coast Guard and maritime community. RADM Card went on to outline the Coast Guard's PTP implementation plan, still in draft form. Included were the PTP vision, principles and goals with illustrative objectives and activities which will be used to accomplish them. A complete copy of RADM Card's speech can be found on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.dot.gov/dotinfo/uscg/hg/g-m/gmhome.htm>.

Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Subcommittee on PTP Meeting

The newly established PTP Subcommittee will meet to discuss various issues to assist the marine chemical transportation community to develop actions which minimize accidents and injuries through application of PTP principles. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 1996 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., in room 6103, USCG Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001.

For further information contact Lieutenant Rick J. Raksnis, at telephone (202) 267-0084.

Black Lifesaving Crew Honored by USCG 100 Years Later

Seven black men who risked their lives to save nine people on a sinking ship 100 years ago recently received posthumous honors from the USCG during a ceremony at the Navy Memorial in Washington, DC.

The seven men, who were members of the U.S. Lifesaving Service stationed at a lighthouse in Pea Island, NC, were never recognized for the acts of heroism. Upon

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Public Meeting on STCW Implementation Scheduled

discovery of the oversight, the USCG decided to give the highest honor, the Gold Life Medal, to the seven men. A Baltimore Coast Guard commander, Stephen Rochon, was helpful in implementing the posthumous honor.

The Coast Guard is proposing changes to the current domestic rules on licensing, documentation and manning in compliance with the amendments adopted July 1995 to the STCW Convention and are to come into force February 1, 1997. The Coast Guard's STCW Implementation team has completed the initial task, with the publishing of the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on March 26, 1996.

Three public meetings are being scheduled for additional public information and input. The dates and cites are listed below:

- 8 May 1996 at 9:30 a.m.- New Orleans, LA at the New Orleans Airport Hilton, 901 Airline Highway, Kenner, LA 70062.
- 14 May 1996 at 9:30 a.m.- Seattle, WA at the Department of Commerce, Bldg. 9 Auditorium, NOAA Western Region Center, Seattle, WA 98115.
- 23 May 1996 at 9:30 a.m.- Washington, DC at Department of Transportation Room 6200, 400 7th Street, S.W. Washington, DC. 20590.

The information on the public hearings was published in the *Federal Register* on April 8, 1996. Details of the public meetings in your region can also be obtained by faxing a request to the National Maritime Center, (703) 235-1062, or calling (703) 235-0018.

President Clinton and Secretary Peña Announce Financing for New Ship Order

Secretary Peña recently announced the approval of a \$215 million federal financing guarantee for the construction of five modern, double hull tankers by Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., of Newport News, VA.

This is an excellent example of common-sense government in which we work together with the private sector to foster economic development, said Secretary Peña. "Through our comprehensive shipbuilding initiative, we have helped modernize American shipyards. Not only are we increasing our domestic capacity, but for the first time in 30 years, we are building ships for export."

Newport News Shipbuilding said that the \$247 million project will support direct employment for 700 to 1,000 shipyard workers and many others in supporting industries. Worldwide interest in the program remains high, with approximately \$2 billion in potential projects under review. The ship financing program is one of the key elements of President Clinton's five-point shipbuilding initiative to strengthen American shipyards.

In addition to the loan guarantee program, the President's initiative includes reduction of unfair international subsidies, elimination of unnecessary government regulation, improving competitiveness through MARITECH, an industry-driven defense conversion initiative and assisting international marketing by using federal government marketing and export promotional programs to assist U.S. shipyards in identifying potential foreign orders.

The shipbuilding program supports Secretary Peña's vision for a new alliance between transportation and technology industries to make them both more efficient and internationally competitive.

Under this program, the government does not make direct loans. Funds are secured in the private sector with repayment guaranteed by the government. Under the

NEWS (CONT'D)

American International Shipbuilding Exposition

Clinton administration approximately \$1.3 billion in shipyard construction and modernization projects have been approved.

The American International Shipbuilding Exposition (AISE) was held on April 11-13, 1996 in New Orleans, Louisiana, and part of its theme was Helping the American shipbuilding industry set sail into a new era of innovation and world competitiveness. Several thousand ship and workboat owners, operators, management and other industry professionals from North America and abroad attended the first annual American International Shipbuilding Exposition. 200 shipyards and suppliers displayed world-class designs and technology for construction, conversion, repair and maintenance. There was also a major Operator Conference covering new MARITECH designs, financing, and the impacts of OECD and GATT, as well as other topics of critical importance.

The American International Shipbuilding Exposition was the first opportunity for shipyards and suppliers building all sizes and classes of commercial vessels to come together for an event focusing world attention on American capabilities. AISE was a historic event, and an unequaled opportunity to be part of the industry as it move towards a strengthened competitive position in the 21st century.

National Transportation Safety Board Seminar Integrated Bridge Systems

The National Transportation Safety Board hosted an "Integrated Bridge Systems" seminar on 6-7 March, 1996 at the Sheraton Premiere Hotel at Tysons Corner, VA.

Integrated Bridge Systems (IBS) Design, USE, Components, Shipboard, Placement Location, and Future were among the topics on the agenda.

Presentations were also made on Radar (ARPA) and Components, Research on Safety of Radar Systems, Human Factors, Electronic Charting and its Accuracy.

Captain Sparks represented the Professional Pilots and discussed pilots concern when boarding ships with IBS and the disadvantage, if they do not have a clear view from bridge windows, because the IBS console is located right at forward windows. Pilots are also concerned that if the Radar/ARPA is in the IBS console, they will not have free access to Radar/ARPA presentation, and no attempt at achieving an industry standard with IBS consoles.

Many people at the seminar, both presenters and attendees, were under the impression that IBS and solo watch keeping were synonymous. The USCG does not at present concur with the solo watch keeping concept.

The seminar was highlighted by a presentation outlining studies done to determine the training and safety aspects of ARPA as a collision avoidance tool. A number of examples of misuse of ARPA controls and misinterpretation of data were found during the testing phase of the study. Therefore, it will be the USCG intent to have individuals certified only after training on actual ARPA equipment and not PC-based ARPA equipment.

Coast Guard Amends Its Electrical Engineering Regulations

As part of the President's Regulatory Reinvention Initiative, the Coast Guard issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on February 2, 1996, to amend its electrical engineering regulations. The NPRM reduces the regulatory burden on the marine industry, purges obsolete regulations and replaces prescriptive requirements with performance-based regulations that incorporate international standards.

The proposed revisions would clarify and condense, in technically correct language, the electrical engineering regulations applicable to Coast Guard certified

NEWS (CONT'D)

vessels. Also, the proposed regulations would harmonize, where possible, the electrical engineering regulations with recent amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974. Additionally, the proposed rules would revise electrical engineering regulation in subchapter Q regarding fire-protective systems and emergency loudspeaker systems.

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written data, views, or arguments. Mail comments after 17 March to Executive Secretary, Marine Safety Council (G-LRA-2/3406) (CGD 94-108), USCG Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001.

For further information, contact Mr. Gerald Miente, or LTJG Jacqueline Twomey, Design and Engineering Standards Division, at (202) 267-2206. For copies of the proposed rule, fax your requests to (202) 267-4547. An electronic version of this document can be obtained via the World Wide Web at: <http://WWW.nsnet.com/~uscg/>

Telecommunications Act Clears the Way for GMDSS Implementation

On February 8th, 1996, President Clinton signed the Telecommunications Act which provides for a broad deregulation of telephone and cable television services. A less publicized provision of the Act also resolves an impasse which has placed U.S. flag commercial vessels at a competitive disadvantage relative to their foreign competitors.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has implemented a major upgrade to the radiocommunications provisions of the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS) Convention referred to as the Global Maritime Distress and Safety (GMDSS). GMDSS discontinues use of manual Morse radiotelegraphy for distress and safety purposes and relies instead on new technology such as the COSPAS-SARSAT and Inmarsat maritime satellite systems, and provides for modernization including automation of existing Medium Frequency (MF), High Frequency (HF), and Very High Frequency (VHF) services used in the maritime service.

GMDSS has been in effect since 1992 under a transition period during which time ships may utilize either system. By 1 February 1999 all ocean shipping over 300 tons must be fully GMDSS compliant. Many GMDSS equipped ships of other nations have been sailing since 1992 without the radiotelegraphy facilities of the earlier SOLAS treaty. U.S. flag ships on the other hand, while permitted to use the new GMDSS equipment, have been granted only near-coastal exemptions from the radiotelegraphy requirements since the FCC could not waive those provisions of the Communications Act of 1934. For this reason there has been no economic incentive for an early conversion and few U.S. ships have outfitted for GMDSS operation.

The new Telecommunications Act provides that U.S. ships operating in accordance with the GMDSS "....shall not be required to be equipped with a radio telegraphy station operated by one or more radio officers or operators." This should resolve the impasse and enable U.S. ships to operate on the same basis as their foreign counterparts. The procedures for providing this relief have not yet been announced but ships cannot discontinue radiotelegraphy services until the FCC has amended Part 80 of its Rules or until the ship has received an individual exemption.

Resolution of this impasse comes at a good time now that the Coast Guard has taken steps to accelerate domestic outfitting through sponsorship of a GMDSS Implementation Task Force of interested parties which will address problems and recommend solutions. The Task Force has held several meetings and has commissioned several subordinate Task Groups to address issues as GMDSS

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New Era for Travel, Time Savings and Communications with Global Positioning Satellite System

operator training, commercial vessel outfitting, recreational vessel awareness, and the needs of service agents and equipment manufacturers. Organizations wishing to be represented on the Task Force should contact the Executive Director, Captain John C. Fuechsel, USCG (Ret.) at 7425 Elgar Street; Springfield, VA 22151; (703) 941-1935/fax, (703) 941-6154.

The signing of a Presidential Decision Directive allows the civilian and commercial use of the Global Positioning System (GPS), Vice President Al Gore and Transportation Secretary Federico Peña ushered in a new era of travel, timesavings and communication.

President Clinton's directive assures GPS will be available for consumers and business use. GPS is a satellite-based radionavigation system originally employed by the Department of Defense that now is increasingly put to use by motor carriers, rail and transit systems, airlines and commercial shippers worldwide to track vehicles and goods and provide highly accurate three-dimensional position, velocity and time.

"Today starts a new era for transportation companies, for their customers and for the American traveling public," Secretary Peña said. "The birth of this new industry will completely transform the way we live from driving to work, to delivering a package, to responding to an emergency. GPS will have profound effects on everyday life, saving people time, cutting costs and giving people mobility and choices that they never had before."

Selling Licenses Just Doesn't Pay (by Lieutenant Pablo E. Rogue Jr., Senior Investigating Officer)

Juan Del Valle, a former Coast Guard civilian employee who had served as a Licensing Examiner at Marine Safety Office San Juan, recently pled guilty to 4 felony counts for accepting bribes to issue licenses to persons not meeting the qualifications. Del Valle was sentenced to 10 months in prison and 3 years probation following release from prison. In addition, Del Valle will have to reimburse the government an amount equal to the cost of his confinement. Del Valle was terminated shortly after his actions were discovered. He has lost any rights and benefits he may have earned in his many years of government service prior to his crimes.

Two other persons also pled guilty for their roles in this "License for Sale" scheme and were sentenced to probation and hefty fines.

The criminal actions in this case were the result of internal Coast Guard investigations which were turned over to the Department of Justice for prosecution. The investigation also included an extensive audit of every license and Merchant Mariner's Document issued at MSO San Juan over a two year period.

In addition to the criminal actions above, a total of 7 licenses were determined to have been fraudulently issued. These licenses were recovered and destroyed. Thirteen Able Seaman endorsements were also discovered to have been improperly issued. These Able Seaman endorsements were administratively canceled. Eleven of the 13 individuals involved were taken before a Coast Guard Administrative Law Judge who suspended their newly reissued Ordinary Seaman documents for 3 months. The sanctions in these cases were later set aside on a technicality (Commandant's Decision on Appeal #2568). However, by the time the appeal decision was issued, all suspensions had been served and the government has elected not to retry these charges. None of the involved document holders will be issued Able Seaman documents until they fully meet the qualifications.

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United States Coast Guard Public Meeting with Fire Equipment Manufacturers

A public meeting between the USCG, fire equipment manufacturers, marine industry representatives, and other government agencies was held on March 15 at the USCGHQ to review unresolved issues on the use of halon alternatives. The purpose of the meeting was to build consensus on development of standards, USCG policies, and USCG positions on human health risks, test procedures, personnel safety, fire suppression performance, and environmental protection issues stemming from proposed uses of halon alternative gases. The full day meeting focused use of halon alternatives in total flooding applications in machinery spaces and concentrated on issues that are not adequately addressed, or not resolved in, industry standards. A large turnout from the affected industries showed strong interest in the issues.

Meeting participants brought a wide array of views on each issue and in depth technical discussions resulted. The meeting achieved consensus on several key issues, most notably on measures for addressing products of thermal decomposition of halocarbon extinguishing agents. Minutes of the meeting are available from G-MMS-4, USCGHQ, 2100 Second St. S.W., Washington, DC 20593.

USCG Publishes Notice of Proposed Rule Making on Electronic Records of Shipping Articles and Certificates of Discharge

On March 28, 1996, the Coast Guard published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register (61 FR 13796) which proposes to revise the way information on the "engagement" (shipment) and discharge of merchant mariners is maintained and submitting to the Coast Guard.

Electronically transmitted data will produce more accurate sea service records since there will be less opportunity to introduce human error. Ship operating companies not having electronic transmission capabilities or choosing not to use electronic transmission will continue to submit copies of Certificates of Discharge for entry into the sea service database.

The elimination of manual recordkeeping for mariner employment records will save the Coast Guard approximately \$460,000 in administrative costs. The ship operating companies will realize a savings of approximately \$1,200,000 in preparation and mailing fees.

Comments must be received before May 28, 1996, and addressed to the Executive Secretary, Marine Safety Council (G-LRA-2), USCG Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001.

For additional information or to obtain a copy of the NPRM, call Mrs. Justine Bunnell, Project Manager, National Maritime Center, (NMC-4A), 4200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 510, Arlington, VA, 22203-1804, telephone (703) 235-1951 or fax requests to (703) 235-1062. This document can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.dot.gov/dotinfo/uscg/hg/g-m/gmhome.htm>.

Propeller Injury Prevention Aboard Rental Boats

This Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) is needed to gather current, specific, and accurate information about the injuries involving propeller strikes and rented boats. In a request for comments published May 11, 1995, the Coast Guard solicited comments from all segments of the marine community and other interested persons on various aspects of propeller accident avoidance aboard houseboats and other displacement type recreational vessels.

The information received was voluminous, but was too general to be helpful. Consistent with the President's Regulatory Reinvention Initiative, the Coast Guard is interested in obtaining maximum public involvement before it makes any decision imposing a new burden on the regulated community. Information gathered

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in response to this ANPRM will supplement the information the Coast Guard received in response to the request for comments and will be used to determine the appropriate Federal and State roles in reducing propeller - strike incidents, whether governmental intervention is appropriate and if so, whether it should be directed at the vessels, their manufacturers, their operators or owners, or the companies leasing such vessels. This ANPRM also announces a public meeting at Coast Guard Headquarters for individuals and interested parties may make oral presentations about the propeller strike avoidance issue. The Coast Guard has also arranged four other opportunities, throughout the country, for those interested in this subject to express their views.

Comments must be received on or before September 1, 1996. Comments may be mailed to the Executive Secretary, Marine Safety Council (G-LRA/3406) (CGD95-041), USCG Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, or may be delivered to room 3406 at the above address between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is (202) 267-1477. The Executive Secretary maintains the public docket for this notice. Comments will become a part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room 3406, USCG Headquarters.

For further information contact, Mr. Randolph Doubt, Project Manager, Recreational Boating Product Assurance Division, (202) 267-0984.

Qualifications for Tankerman and for Persons in Charge of Transfer of Dangerous Liquids and Liquefied Gases

The Coast Guard is reopening the period for public comment on its Interim Rule on the Qualifications for Tankerman, and for Dangerous Liquids and Liquefied Gases. Public help is needed in treating certain issues.

Tuesday, April 4, 1995 (60 FR 17134), the Coast Guard issued an Interim Rule on the Qualifications for Tankerman and for Persons in Charge of Transfers of Dangerous Liquids and Liquefied Gases. The deadline for written comments was June 30, 1995.

Comments submitted during the comment period by the public and further evaluation of the Interim Rule by the Coast Guard revealed certain issues requiring further evaluation, clarification, or correction. The Coast Guard has, therefore, decided to reopen the comment period. There is no need to refile comments already submitted. The effective date of the Interim Rule remains March 31, 1996. Written comments may be mailed to the Executive Secretary, Marine Safety Council (G-LRA, 3406), USCG, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, or may be delivered to room 3406 at the same address between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments will become part of this docket and will be available for inspection or copying at room 3406, Coast Guard Headquarters, between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For further information contact, Mr. Mark C. Gould, Project Manager, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection Directorate, Office of Maritime Personnel Qualifications (G-MOS-1), (202) 267-6890. This telephone is equipped to record messages on a 24-hour basis.

USCG Announces Findings of Cruise Ship Safety Review Task Force

(Reprinted article due to misprint of contact number.)

The USCG recently published the findings of its Cruise Ship Safety Review Task Force following a comprehensive three month study of cruise ship safety.

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The Task Force concluded that there was no evidence of trends or heightened risks associated with ocean going cruise ships from U.S. ports. To obtain a copy of the report, please contact the Traveling Inspection Team at (202) 267-1080. The executive summary of the report may be downloaded off the World Wide Web at <http://www.dot.gov/dotinfo/uscg/hg/g-m/gmhouse.htm>.

Marine Safety Center Calculation of Combustible Fire Load

Marine Safety Center Technical Note (MTN) 6-95, entitled "Calculation of Combustible Fire Load in Accommodation Spaces for Vessels Subject to 46 CFR Subpart 72.05," has been developed with input from many of the people most affected by its guidance. Our appreciation goes out to all who responded to the call and provided valuable input.

Used in conjunction with NVIC 8-93 and Commandant Policy File Memorandum 1-94, MTN 6-95 should provide answers to many important fire load questions. A full discussion of the theoretical basis for the fire load limitations is included as well as a summary of the correlation between the fire load limitations and space classifications. The MTN provides a workable tool for designers, architects, plan reviewers, and inspectors.

Work is continuing at Coast Guard Headquarters on the update of NVIC 6-80, "Guide to Structural Fire Protection Aboard Merchant Vessels." The new version of NVIC 6-80 will incorporate much of the guidance of MTN 6-95. In the interim, anyone needing fire load guidance may obtain copy of the new MTN 6-95 by contacting the Maritime Safety Center, Hull Division at (202) 366-6481.

The 1996 Sea-Air-Space Exposition

The 1996 SEA-AIR-SPACE Exposition was held April 2-4 for personnel who serve our national maritime defense and the maritime community. The majority of the three-day event was open to all qualified visitors, particularly members of the U.S. and Allied forces, civilian staffs of the U.S. defense establishment, members of the reserve, retired U.S. military, and members of the Navy League of the United States.

The Exposition offered the most concise update on the state-of-the-art advances and achievements in maritime hardware, systems and services.

ADM Robert E. Kramek, Commandant of the United States Coast Guard, was the opening ceremony speaker.

Third International Summit on Safety at Sea

The Third International Summit on Safety at Sea will be held May 14-15, 1996 in Oslo, Norway. The conference will focus on key issues related to improving safety at sea. Keynote speakers will include Mr. W.A. O'Neil, Secretary General of IMO and RADM James C. Card, USCG.

ASTM Committee F-25 on Ships and Marine Technology

The F-25 Committee develops standard specifications, test methods, terminology, practices, and guides for design, construction, operation and repair of marine vessels, structures, systems, equipment and materials. The Committee will coordinate its efforts with other ASTM committees and outside organizations having mutual interests of marine environmental matters. The principal areas of interest include improved quality, reduced risk, marine environmental protection and reduced cost in the shipbuilding, ship operation and marine industry through the development of a body of ASTM standards. Existing standards will be recognized and referenced as appropriate, and every effort will be made by the committee to complement rather than to duplicate or conflict with regulatory agency requirements.

NEWS (CONT'D)

NSRP/SNAME Panel SP-6 Met at USCG National Maritime Center

The next meeting of the ASTM Shipbuilding and Marine Technology Committee (F-25) will be held 21-23 May 1996 in Orlando, FL at the Omni Rosen Hotel.

A Seminar on Innovations in Marine Technology will be held during the Committee meetings and will include speakers on the following topics: "New Developments in Engine Emission;" "Advancements in Process Engineering as Applied to Shipbuilding;" and "Advancements in Piping System Fabrication."

The SNAME Ship Production Committee, Standards Panel (SP-6) met at the USCG National Maritime Center on 1-2 April 1996. The major agenda items was a discussion of the SP-6/National Shipbuilding Research FY 97, the projects which are currently underway, as well as a discussion of proposed projects for the FY 98 program. New projects include training in rules, regulations and standards for council shipping; establishment of a listing of shipbuilding standards agreed to as national standards for U.S. shipbuilders; and development of families of shipbuilding standards on quality. The Panel welcomes comments and ideas for the FY 98 program.

The FY 97 program proposal includes: "Establishing Recommended American Shipbuilding Quality Guidelines for the International Commercial Market," "Methodology of Part Standardization," "Training in Rules, Regulations and Standards for Commercial Ships," and "Continuing Preferred Standards Identification."

For further information Contact: Mr. Steve Laskey, (207) 442-1117, Bath Iron Works Corp., MS 5030, 700 Washington St., Bath, ME 04530.

Panel SP-6 project G-94-1 "World Class Shipbuilding Standards" is nearing completion. The project team has benchmarked world class shipyards in Denmark and Japan to develop a plan for the preparation of a comprehensive listing of agreed United States Commercial Shipbuilding Standards. These standards will improve the communication between all the stakeholders in the shipbuilding process including Owners, Shipbuilders, Classification Societies, Vendors, and Regulatory Bodies. This communication will improve U.S. competitiveness through reduced cost and delivery of U.S. ships and improving the quality of the final product.

A draft of this plan has been developed and it is ready for review and comment by all stakeholders. Input is required to formulate a viable and achievable plan to guide future activities of our industry in this area.

To this end, the G-94-1 Project Manager is organizing a workshop session to be held on 21 May 1500-1900 hours, in conjunction with the ASTM meeting to be held in Orlando, FL from 21-23 May, 1996. It is seen as vital that all stakeholders are represented. All those interested are invited to attend the workshop; however, as a minimum, Presentation from SNAME, NSRP, ASTM, ABS, MMA, ASA, and SCA will be specifically solicited to take part.

Please contract the Project Manager, Phil Lloyd, at NASSCO at (619) 544-8699 or fax at (619) 544-8448 for further details or a draft copy of the plan.

What's New on the World Wide Web

The Marine Safety WWW activity is moving to a new server. The site has been running on a commercial server until space on a government server became available. The new base URL is: <http://www.dot.gov/dotinfo/uscg/hq/g-m/gmhome.htm> Both servers will be maintained through May. On the First of June the

NEWS (CONT'D)

site on the commercial server will be turned off.

- An ISO Standards Survey is posted.
- Pertinent Phone Numbers.
- Extensive new and updated regulations have been added.
- Port State control procedures.
- PTP Program.
- The questions in the exam section have been updated.

Courses Approved During March 1996

SCHOOL	COURSE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Alaska Vocational Technical Center [Seward, AK]	Master/Mate 200GT, and Master 100 GT/OUPV	Feb 29, 1996
C2T Group, Ltd. [West Babylon, NY]	Tankerman-PIC (Barge)	Feb 1, 1996
Calhoon MEBA Engineering School [Easton, MD]	Electricity, and Electrical Troubleshooting	Mar 1, 1996
Charter Industry Services, Inc. [Stuart, FL]	Limited Master 100 GT, Limited OUPV, and Towing Endorsement	Jan 1, 1996
Houston Marine Training Services [St. Rose, LA]	Radar Observer- Inland Waters, Rivers, and Renewal	Apr 19, 1996
Maritime Institute [San Diego, CA]	Able Seaman Refresher Training (MMD)	Dec 1, 1995
Southern California Merchant Marine Training Services [San Diego, CA]	Master, 100GT OUPV, and Sail Endorsement	Feb 28, 1996

Guide to Abbreviations used Above:

GT- gross tons
MMD- merchant mariner's document
OUPV- operator of uninspected passenger vessels
PIC- person in charge

G-M REGULATORY PROJECTS

OPA 90

The list of studies, reports, and rulemakings is a listing of pending projects. Within each section, projects are arranged sequentially according to the section number of the Act.

The number in parentheses following the abbreviated project title is the OPA 90 project number. When calling to request additional information, please reference this number.

To support the President's regulatory reinvention initiative (PRRI), the Coast Guard has embarked on an ambitious mission to reinvent and eliminate regulations that are obsolete, outdated, or that place U.S. businesses at a competitive disadvantage to foreign industry. This project is a high priority for the Coast Guard that will impact other project time schedules. The Coast Guard is readjusting the schedules for non-PRRI projects and will update the project schedules in the newsletter as appropriate.

**SEC.1013(e)
Claims Procedures (8)
and SEC.1014(b)
Designation of Source
and Advertisement (9)**

Addresses the presentation, filing, processing, settlement and adjudication of claims against the Fund, as well as the advertisement of designation and the notification of claims procedures.

Status: Final Rule is on hold.

Contact: Mr. Skall, tel.: (703) 235-4700, fax: (703) 235-4838

**SEC.1016(a)
Financial Responsibility
(10)**

Requires vessel owners and operators to demonstrate and maintain evidence of financial responsibility meeting the limits of liability established by section 1004(a) of OPA 90.

Status: Final Rule published March 7, 1996

Contact: LCDR Steve Carpenter, tel.: (703) 235-4708, fax: (703) 235-4838

**SEC.3002
U.S. Canada Great Lakes
Oil Spill Cooperation
and SEC.3003
U.S. Canada Lake
Champlain Oil Spill
Cooperation (12 and 87)**

Requires the Department of State to review international agreements and treaties with the Government of Canada regarding the prevention of oil discharges, assurance of removal of oil, and full compensation to those injured by a discharge on the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain.

Status: Discussions ongoing between U.S. and Canada. U.S. and Canadian Coast Guard met on 22 February to discuss reciprocity regarding response plans on vessels.

Contact: LT Cliff Thomas, tel.: (202) 267-1099

**SEC.4103
CGD 94-101
Suspension and
Revocation of Licenses,
Certificates of Registry,
and Merchant Mariner's
Documents for Alcohol
and Drug Abuse (19)**

Will allow the USCG to temporarily suspend and take possession of a license, COR, or MMD before a hearing under certain circumstances; adds two new bases under which merchant mariner credentials may be suspended or revoked; and imposes a new requirement on a mariner that must be satisfied before merchant mariner credentials can be issued after revocation.

Status: Will be merged with 94-111, Update 46 CFR 5, Personnel Action. (See Projects 18 and 21)

Contact: LT. J. Griffin, tel.: (202) 267-0687

**SEC.4106(b)
CDG 91-216
Reporting Marine
Casualties (23)**

Requires that oil and hazardous materials discharges be reported to the USCG. Adds "significant harm to the environment" to the list of reportable marine casualties. Includes reporting a marine casualty involving a citizen of the U.S. on a foreign flag passenger vessel.

Status: Regulations are being developed.

Contact: ENS Nguyen, tel.: (202) 267-1100, fax: (202) 267-4547

G-M REGULATORY PROJECTS (CONT'D)

SEC.4111 Study on Tanker Navigation Safety Standards (30)

Requires the Secretary to report on the adequacy of existing laws and regulations to ensure the safe navigation of vessels transporting oil.

Status: Study is being conducted in 12 parts. Congress will review periodic reports as sub-studies are completed.

Contact: Ms. Meers, tel.: (202) 267-6758, fax: (202) 267-4624

SEC.4113 (a and b) Use of Liners (33)

EPA is determining if liners should be used to prevent leaking at onshore facilities located near navigable waters that are used for the bulk storage of oil.

Status: EPA will make recommendations in a report which is currently being drafted. Next action undetermined.

Contact: Mr. Mould, tel.: (703) 603-8728, fax: (703) 603-9116

SEC.4115 Marine Board OPA 90 Implementation Review

Status: The Marine Board of the National Academy of Sciences has been retained by the Coast Guard to study the effects of the implementation of Section 4115 of OPA 90 on the marine oil transportation industry. The two-year study commenced in February 1995. An interim report is expected to be released around January 1996.

Contact: Mr. Sirkar, or Mr. Klingel, tel.: (202) 267-6925, or (202) 267-6826

SEC.4115(a) Research in Tanker Groundings (38A)

This non-mandated study is being conducted by the USCG to determine if regulations are needed to implement this section of the Act. This study explores the behavior of tanker structures during groundings.

Status: Research is being conducted at MIT, Final Report should be complete Summer 1996.

Contact: Mr. Sirkar, tel.: (202) 267-6925

SEC.4115(b) Existing Tank Vessel Requirements (37)

Requires additional structural and operational measures for single-hull tank vessels, of 5000 gross tons or more, until the phase-out date, to reduce pollution.

Overall Status: SNPRM on Operational Measures published November 3, 1995 (60 FR 55904) and discussed in the November 1995 issue of the Marine Safety Newsletter. SNPRM on Structural Measures was published December 28, 1995 (60FR 67226) with a comment period that was extended until April 10, 1996. A correction notice was also published for Table 2 of the SNPRM on February 21, 1996 (61 FR 6590). A public meeting was held on March 19, 1996.

Phase I: A final rule consisting of requirements for lightering equipment and the reporting of a vessel's international IMO number prior to port entry was published August 5, 1994 (59 FR 40186).

Phase II: A supplemental NPRM outlining operational measures including training requirements, survey requirements, and some maneuverability measures has been proposed on November 3, 1995 to focus on reducing the accident risk of these vessels. (60 FR 55904).

Phase III: A supplemental NPRM detailing the structural requirements reviewed for these vessels and also other alternative measures for reducing the outflow of oil if the vessel becomes damaged. The SNPRM was published on December 28, 1995 (60 FR 67226).

Contacts: Phase I: Mr. Bob Gauvin, tel.: (202) 267-1053, fax: (202) 267-4690

Phase II III: LCDR Englebert, tel.: (202) 267-1492, fax: (202) 267-4547

G-M REGULATORY PROJECTS (CONT'D)

**SEC.4115(c)
Escorts for Certain
Tankers; Other
Geographic Areas (44a)**

Designates U.S. waters (other than PWS, AK and Puget Sound, WA) where single hull tankers must be escorted.

Status: USCG is reviewing comments from the ANPRM and public hearings. NPRM delayed as a result of USCG consideration of public comments. NPRM is being drafted.

Contact: Mr. Jordan, tel.: (202) 267-2988, fax: (202) 267-4816

**SEC.4202(a)
[FWPCA 1321(j)(6)]
Removal Equipment
Requirements and
Inspection/Contractor
Classification (90) and
(91)**

Requires the inspection of containment booms, skimmers, vessels, and other major equipment used to remove discharges. To facilitate compliance by industry and verification of compliance by the Federal Government with this provision and with the response plan requirements, the USCG is working with ASTM to develop consensus standards for terminology, guidelines, recommended practices, and equipment test methods. Also, although not specifically required by OPA 90, standards for classifying OSROs by their estimated capacity to contain and remove oil spills facilitates response plan preparation by industry, plan review by the Federal Government, and OSROs' ability to evaluate their own capability.

Status: Rulemaking activities deferred. OSRO guidelines issued January 3, 1996.

Contact: LT Hoover, tel.: (202) 267-0448, fax: (202) 267-4085

**SEC.4202(a)
CDG 94-032
Tank Vessel Response
Plans: Hazardous
Substances (95)**

Requires owners or operators of tank vessels carrying hazardous substances to submit a response plan for worst case discharges.

Status: ANPRM in final clearance.

Contact: LT Thomas, tel.: (202) 267-1099, fax: (202) 267-4547

**SEC.4202(a)
CDG 94-048
Facility Response Plans:
Hazardous Substance (96)**

Requires owners or operators of onshore marine transportation-related facilities to submit a response plan for worst case discharges of hazardous substances.

Status: ANPRM in final clearance.

Contact: LT Thomas, tel.: (202) 267-1099, fax: (202) 267-4547

**SEC.4202(b)(4)
CDG 91-036
Facility Response Plans
(88)**

Requires owners or operators of marine transportation-related onshore facilities to prepare and submit a response plan for a worst case discharge of oil.

Status: Final Rule published February 29, 1996 (61 FR 7890).

Contact: LT Thomas, tel.: (202) 267-1099, fax: (202) 267-4547

Other

The following is an outline of other G-M regulatory projects including their status and completion dates. The Marine Safety Newsletter will update this listing as new projects develop.

**CGD 79-116
Tankerman**

Rulemaking would define and establish more stringent qualifying criteria for individuals engaged in transporting and transferring various categories of oil and dangerous liquid Cargoes.

Status: IFR published April 4, 1995 (60 FR 17134), effective March 31, 1996. The Coast Guard on March 26, 1996 reopened the comment period on its Interim Rule. The comment period closes on May 28, 1996. Final rule is being drafted.

Contact: Mr. Mark Gould, tel.: (202) 267-6890

G-M REGULATORY PROJECTS (CONT'D)

CGD 84-069
Lifesaving Equipment--
Implementation of 1983
Amendments to SOLAS
1974

Project would implement the provisions of the 1983 amendments to SOLAS 1974 (Safety of Life at Sea) which came into force in July 1986. It would also reorganize the lifesaving equipment regulations in order to simplify, clarify, and reduce redundancy.

Status: INTERIM RULE is being written.

Contact: Mr. Bob Markle, tel.: (202) 267-1076

CGD 85-080
Small Passenger Vessel
Inspection and
Certification

This rulemaking revises subchapters S and T and creates a new subchapter K to reflect statutory changes, incorporate new technology, and improve safety requirements.

Status: IFR published, on January 10, 1996 (61 FR 864). Comment period ends on June 10, 1996.

Contact: LT Eric Christensen, tel.: (202) 267-1055

CGD 85-205
Revision to Inflatable
Liferaft Approval:
SOLAS 74/83

This project will establish approval requirements for inflatable liferafts meeting the 1983 Amendments to the 1974 Safety of Life at Sea Convention.

Status: FR being drafted.

Contact: Mr. Kurt Heinz, tel.: (202) 267-1079

CGD 86-074
Offshore Supply Vessel
Regulations

Regulations will consolidate existing offshore Safety Vessel standards and policy into a single subchapter and make specific revisions to accommodate the unique characteristics and methods of operation and the service in which the vessels are engaged.

Status: IFR published on November 16, 1995 (60 FR 57630).

Contact: Mr. Jim Magill, tel.: (202) 267-1082

CGD 88-079
Implementation of the
Commercial Fishing-
Industry Vessel Safety
Act

The project addresses survival draft for commercial fishing vessels, the granting of exemptions from survival craft requirements and technical changes to the supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking.

Status: INTERIM RULE is in final clearance.

Contact: LCDR Mark D. Bobal, tel.: (202) 267-0836

CGD 89-050
Vessel Identification
System

Project establishes a Vessel Identification System (VIS). Rulemaking will prescribe the manner and form for participating States to make information available for VIS; to establish guidelines for State vessel titling systems; and to establish procedures for certifying compliance with those guidelines.

Status: IFR published April 25, 1995 (60 FR 20310). Notice of delay of effective date for Sub part I published Feb 23, 1996.

Contact: LCDR Rick Ferraro, tel.: (202) 267-0386

CGD 91-012
Security for Passenger
Vessels and Passenger
Terminals

This action will improve security measures on passenger vessels engaged in international voyages of 24 hours or more, and on the port facilities serving these vessels.

Status: Final Rule is in clearance.

Contact: CDR Dennis Haise, tel.: (202) 267-6451

CGD 92-013
User Fees For Approvals of
Equipment, Laboratories,
and Servicing Facilities

This regulatory project would establish direct user fees for Coast Guard services relating to equipment approvals, factory inspections, acceptance of independent laboratories and acceptance of servicing, repair, and testing facilities.

Status: Project being reviewed

Contact: Mr. Jack Klingel, tel.: (202) 267-6826

G-M REGULATORY PROJECTS (CONT'D)

CGD 93-055
Approval of Inflatable
Personal Flotation
Devices (PFDs) for
Recreational Boaters

The rulemaking establishes approval procedures for inflatable personal flotation devices (PFDs).

Status: NPRM published June 23, 1995 (60 FR 32861). Comment period ended October 23, 1995. Final Rule published March 28, 1996 (61 FR).

Contact: Mr. Kurt Heine, tel.: (202) 267-1444

CGD 93-056
Facilities Transferring
Oil and Hazardous
Material in Bulk

This rulemaking will revise the provisions of 33 CFR part 154 to provide regulations covering facilities transferring oil or hazardous materials that are clearer than the current regulations and promote a high level of safety and environmental protection.

Status: NPRM published February 23, 1995 (60 FR 10044). FR being drafted.

Contact: LCDR John Farthing, tel.: (202) 267-0505

CG 94-004
Amendment to
46 CFR 14—
Revise Recordkeeping of
Shipping Articles and
Certificates of Discharge

Coast Guard proposes to eliminate the requirement for maritime operating companies to submit copies of shipping articles, certificates of discharge, and other seamen employment documents to the Coast Guard. Companies will still be required to submit information contained in the certificates of discharge, but will be allowed to submit the required information electronically.

Status: NPRM published March 28, 1996 (61 FR 13496). Comment period closes on May 30, 1996.

Contact: Mrs. Justine Bunnell, tel.: (703) 235-1951

CGD 94-110
Recreational Inflatable
Personal Flotation Device
Standards

Rulemaking will add regulations for the approval of inflatable personal flotation devices (PFDs) for use on recreational boats. These new regulations will establish structural and performance standards for these inflatable PFDs, as well as the procedures for Coast Guard approval of such inflatable PFDs.

Status: IFR published June 23, 1995 (60 FR 32836). Comment period extended until November 6, 1995 (60 FR 52631). Final Rule published March 28, 1996 (61 FR 13931).

Contact: Mr. Samuel E. Wehr, tel.: (202) 267-0262

CGD 94-020
Navigational and Safety
Equipment for Towing
Vessels (103)

Proposed rulemaking amends 33 CFR part 164 to require towing vessels of 8 meters or more in length to carry specified navigation equipment. A marine radar, a searchlight, appropriate charts, current publications, proper towlines, magnetic compasses, electronic positioning devices, and depth sounding devices are proposed depending on the area of operation. These proposed rules were written in conjunction with the Towing Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC), the Navigation Safety Advisory Council (NAVSAC), and public comment. It is part of a comprehensive initiative by the USCG to improve navigational safety for towing vessels.

Status: NPRM published on November 3, 1995 (60 FR 55890). Comment period closed February 1996.

Contact: LCDR Englebert, tel.: (202) 267-1492, fax.: (202) 267-4547

CGD 94-029
Modernization of
Examination Methods

This rule will amend 46 CFR parts 10 and 12 to allow other than written exams, and third party testing.

Status: NPRM 60 FR 10053 - 2/23/95. Final Rule is in clearance.

Contact: Mr. Mark Gould, tel.: (202) 267-6890

G-M REGULATORY PROJECTS (CONT'D)

CGD 94-040 Vessel Rebuild Determinations

This rulemaking would define relevant terms and develop a standard to determine the character and scope of work on a vessel that will result in a determination that the vessel has been rebuilt.

Status: Final Rule is in clearance.

Contact: Ms. Patricia Williams, tel.: 1-800-799-8362 or (304) 271-2400/2405

CGD 94-041 Radar-Observer Endorsement for Operators of Uninspected Towing Vessels

Coast Guard is amending its regulations to require that, at the time of license renewal, each licensed master, mate, and operator of a radar-equipped uninspected towing vessel of 26 feet or more in length obtain a radar-observer endorsement.

Status: IFR published on October 26, 1994 (59 FR 53754), Comment period closed June 1, 1995 (60 FR 8308). Final Rule being drafted.

Contact: LCDR Don Darcy, tel.: (202) 267-0221

CGD 94-089 Advance Notice of Arrivals, Departures, and Certain Dangerous Cargoes

This project will amend requirements for notice of arrival and departure in 33 CFR 160, Subpart C. Section 160.207 will now apply to non-excepted vessels over 300 gross tons destined for or departing from all ports and places of the United States, and to all non-excepted foreign vessels, regardless of tonnage, destined for or departing from all ports and places of the Seventh District.

Status: NPRM published January 17, 1996 (61 FR 1183). Comment period ends April 16, 1996.

Contact: CDR Dennis Haise, tel.: (202) 267-6451

CGD 94-108 Revision to Subchapter J—Electrical Engineering Regulations

This rulemaking will revise technical areas of 46 CFR Subchapter J to clarify electrical engineering design, construction, and testing requirements; to delete obsolete requirements; to reflect experiences with vessel reflagging; and to more closely parallel international standards.

Status: NPRM published 2 February 1996. Comment period ended April 3, 1996, and a public meeting in Washington, DC was scheduled March 25, 1996, in Room 2230 of DOT HQ, Nassif Bldg.

Contact: Gerald Miente, tel.: (202) 267-0029

CGD 94-111 Update 46 CFR 5, Personnel Action Regulations

This project would consolidate procedures for administrative hearings on the suspension and Revocation (S&R) of Merchant Mariner's credentials (MMCs) and on class II civil penalties. It would also update and revise the remainder of 46 CFR part 5.

Status: Workplan being revised.

Contact: LT J. Griffin, tel.: (202) 267-0687

CGD 95-010 Alternative Compliance

This rulemaking will provide owners of US tank vessels, passenger vessels, cargo vessels, miscellaneous vessels and mobile offshore drilling units an alternative method fulfill the requirements for vessel design, inspection, and certification. Under the rule, the Coast Guard will issue a certificate of inspection based upon a recognized classification society's report that the vessel complies with the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, as amended (SOLAS), other applicable international conventions, classification society rules, and other specified requirements. This will reduce the burden on vessel owners and operators by eliminating duplicative plan reviews and inspections by the classification society and the Coast Guard.

Status: NPRM Published 22 June 95 (60 FR 32478) Comment Period Closed 20 September 95.

Contact: LCDR G. Cummings, tel.: (202) 267-0171

G-M REGULATORY PROJECTS (CONT'D)

CGD 95-027 Adoption of Industry Standards

This rulemaking will revise or remove sections of 46 CFR that are obsolete, unnecessary or excessive by addressing regulations that can be replaced with proven industry standards without degrading the existing level of safety.

Status: NPRM published on December 20, 1995 (60 FR 65988). Comment period closed on February 20, 1996. Final Rule being drafted.

Contact: LCDR R. Butturini, tel.: (202) 267-0027

CGD 95-028 Harmonization with International Safety Standards

This rulemaking will revise or remove sections of 46 CFR that are obsolete, unnecessary or excessive in order to harmonize the regulations with international safety standards.

Status: NPRM being drafted

Contact: LTJG J. Twomey, tel.: (202) 267-0028

CGD 95-055 Revisions to OUTV Licenses

This rulemaking would revise the requirements for licensing those individuals that operate towing vessels. It would institute new licenses with levels of qualification and with enhanced training and operating experience. Further, it would require that all towing vessels be manned by officers holding licenses specifically authorizing such service. It is based on the investigation of an collision of a tug and barge with a railroad bridge, near Mobile, Alabama, in September 1993, which caused 47 deaths. The casualty prompted the Coast Guard's report, Review of Marine Safety Issues Related to Uninspected Towing Vessels. Some of the recommendations contained in the review will be incorporated into this rulemaking.

Status: NPRM being drafted.

Contact: LCDR Don Darcy, tel.: (202) 267-0221

CGD 95-062 1995 Amendments to STCW

This rulemaking will revise the current rules on licensing and documentation, as well as those on workhours and watchkeeping [46 CFR parts 10, 12, and 15] to reflect the requirements in the 1995 Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978.

Status: NPRM published on March 26, 1996 (61 FR 13283). Comment period ends on July 24, 1996.

Contact: Mr. Christopher Young, tel.: (202) 267-0214

CGD 96-921 Amendment to 46 CFR Parts 10, 12, and 13 Coast Guard Course Approval Process

Coast Guard plans to hold a public meeting to solicit input from the maritime industry and from the general public concerning the course approval process currently used by the Coast Guard to evaluate maritime training offered in the United States. The meeting will be held May 8, 1996, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the New Orleans Airport Hilton, 901 Airline Highway, Kenner, LA, 70062

Status: Written comments must be submitted by July 24, 1996.

Contact: Mrs. Chris Meers, tel.: (703) 235-0014

EVENTS

S.O.S. Safety on Ships

Title: S.O.S Safety on Ships: Learning from New York's Maritime Tragedies

Sponsor: The Seamen's Church Institute

Date: March 20- December 30, 1996

Location: The Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey, 241 Water Street New York, New York 10038

Contact: Andrea Laine, (212) 349-9090 ext-243, (212) 349-8342

EVENTS (CONT'D)

International Safety Management Code

Title: International Safety Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention

Sponsor: Lloyds Register

Date: April 1-4, 1996

Location: Lloyds Register Technical Services Inc. Quality Services, One Corporate Plaza, 2525 Bay Area Boulevard, Suite 190, Houston, TX 77058, Telephone: (713) 480-5008, Fax: (713) 480-5313

Contact: Lloyds Register, Mr. A. Puri

First American International Shipbuilding Exposition

Title: American International Shipbuilding

Sponsor: Shipbuilders Council of America, McNabb Expositions, Inc., AISE

Date: April 11-13, 1996

Location: Morial Convention Center in New Orleans

Contact: McNabb Expositions, Inc., Tel: (207) 236-6196, Fax: (207) 236-0369

IIW Shipbuilding Seminar

Title: International Shipbuilding Seminar

Sponsor: IIW

Date: April 17-19, 1996

Location: Hotel H.C. Andersen, Odense, Denmark

Contact: Odense Steel Shipyard Ltd. Attn: Ms. Nancy Vridstoft, P.O. Box 176 DK-5100 Odense C. Denmark, tel., 45 65 97 44 44 , local 491 or Fax., 45 65 97 69 20

ICHCA-USA Seminar

Title: Seminar on Cargo Transportation-The Future

Sponsor: U.S. National Committee of the International Cargo Handling Coordination Association (ICHCA-USA) and the Society of Marine Consultants (SMC)

Date: April 24, 1996

Location: New York World Trade Center

Contact: Benard C. O'Rourke at tel., (201) 228-8678 or Philip B. Kimball at tel., (212) 431-6900 or Fax inquires to (201) 228-8698 or (212) 334-0837

Advisory Council Meeting

Title: Advisory Council Meeting

Sponsor: Navigation Safety Advisory Council (NAVSAC) and National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC)

Date: April 27-29, 1996

Location: Parc Fifty Five Hotel, San Francisco, CA

Marine Log Conference

Title: Marine Operations: The Human Element

Sponsor: Marine Log in cooperation with the USCG

Date: April 29-30, 1996

Location: Washington Marriott Hotel, Washington, DC

Contact: Jane Poterala, Marine Log, Tel: (212) 620-7209, Fax: (212) 633-1165

SASMEX International

Title: Safety at Sea and Marine Electronics Conferences and Exhibition

Sponsor: Safety at Sea International Magazine

CO-Sponsor: NECSA - Navigational Electronic Charts System Association The

EVENTS (CONT'D)

Nautical Institute, IASST - International Association for Sea Survival Training, ILAMA - International Lifesaving Appliance Manufacturers Association RNLI - Royal National Lifeboat Institute, International Maritime Organization

Date: April 30, May 1-2, 1996

Location: Brighton Metropole Hotel, Brighton, UK

Contact: Gillian Jones, SASMEX International 96, Queensway, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1QS, England. Tel: 44 (0)1737 768611, Fax: 44 (0)1737 760564

Crisis and Emergency Management

Title: Exercising Why, When, and How: Gearing Up Your Crisis Management Program

Sponsor: Corporate Response Group, Inc.

Date: Washington, DC May 6-8, 1996, Houston, TX, June 18-20, 1996, Seattle, WA, September 9-11, 1996 Houston, TX October 29-31, 1996

Location: Corporate Response Group, Inc. Washington, DC

Contact: Corporate Response Group, Inc. 11101 17th Street NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20036 Tel: (202) 775-0177 or Fax: (202) 467-0513

Responding '96

Title: Responding '96

Sponsor: Gallagher Marine Systems, Inc. & Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott

Date: May 7, 1996

Location: Grand Hyatt Hotel, Hong Kong

Contact: Sean Connaughton, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20037, telephone (202) 659-6668 or facsimile (202) 659-6699; or Fredric Raeder, Gallagher Marine Systems, Inc., One Atlantic Street, Suite 420, Stamford, Connecticut, telephone (203) 323-8900 or facsimile (202) 323-8893.

Tanker Operations

Title: Tanker Operations

Sponsor: ABS Marine Services

Date: May 14-17, 1996

Location: American Bureau of Shipping, Two World Trade Center, 106th Floor, New York, NY 10048

Contact: ABS Marine Services, 16855 Northchase Drive, Houston, TX 77060-6008, Tel, (713) 874-6522, Fax, (713) 874-6356, Attn: David D. Callahan

Fundamentals of Contract and Change Management for Ship Construction, Repair, and Design

Title: Fundamentals of Contract and Change Management for Ship Construction, Repair, and Design

Sponsor: Fisher Maritime Transportation Counselors, Inc.

Location: Orlando, FL April 17-19, Boston, MA May 8-10 or Vancouver, BC June 4-6

Contact: Fisher Maritime, by phone 1-800-SEA-FIRM, overseas (201) 763-4266 or by fax at (201) 763-5048, or by mail at Fisher Maritime, 71 Valley Street #301, South Orange, NJ 07079

Advanced Tanker

Title: Advanced Tanker Operations

Sponsor: ABS Marine Services

Location: American Bureau of Shipping, Two World Trade Center, 106th Floor, New York, NY 10048

EVENTS (CONT'D)

Charter Parties, Laytime, and Demurrage	Contact: ABS Marine Services, 16822 Northchase Drive, Houston, TX 77060-6008, Tel, (713) 874-6522, Fax, (713) 874-6356, Attn: David D. Callahan
	Title: Charter Parties, Laytime and Demurrage
	Sponsor: ABS Marine Services
	Date: May 21-23, 1996
	Location: American Bureau of Shipping, Two World Trade Center, 106th Floor, New York, NY 10048
	Contact: ABS Marine Services, 16822 Northchase Drive, Houston, TX 77060-6008, Tel, (713) 874-6522, Fax, (713) 874-6356, Attn: David D. Callahan
International Association of Drilling Contractors	Title: Well Control - Europe
	Sponsor: International Association of Drilling Contractors
	Date: May 22-24, 1996
	Location: Aberdeen Conference/Exhibit Center
	Contact: Mrs. Melissa Nellis, Tel: (713) 578-7171, Fax: (713) 578-0589
	Title: Well Control - Americas
	Sponsor: International Association of Drilling Contractors
	Date: August 1-2, 1996
	Location: Inter-Continental Hotel, Rio de Janeiro
	Contact: Mrs. Melissa Nellis, Tel: (713) 578-7171, Fax: (713) 578-0589
USMSA Safety Seminar	Title: The 1996 USMSA Safety Seminar
	Sponsor: United States Marine Safety Association
	Date: June 24-26, 1996
	Location: The Westmark Kodiak, Kodiak, Alaska
	Contact: Shannon Coghlan, tel.: (215) 564-3484 or fax: (215) 963-9785
IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee Meeting	Title: Marine Environment Protection Committee
	Sponsor: International Maritime Organization
	Date: July 1-10, 1996
	Location: IMO Headquarters, 4 Albert Embankment, London. SE1 7SR
National Pollution Funds Center (NPFC) OSLTF User Seminar	Title: Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF) User Seminar
	Sponsor: National Pollution Funds Center (NPFC)
	Date: July 23-24, 1996
	Location: Seattle, Washington at the Doubletree Inn
	Contact: Ms. Ellen Rosen, Soza and Co. at (703) 560-9477, ext. 240. For more information about the seminar program, contact Ms. Dana Compton, at (703) 235-4753, at the NPFC.
International Conference	Title: International Conference on Design and Methodologies for Collision and Grounding Protection of Ships
	Sponsor: The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME) and the Society of Naval Architects of Japan (SNAJ)

EVENTS (CONT'D)

	<p>Date: August 22-23, 1996</p> <p>Location: World Trade Club, San Francisco, CA</p> <p>Contact: Herbert Engineering Corp., 98 Battery Street, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94111, tel., (415) 296-9700, Fax., (415) 296-9763 or Mr. Jaideep Sirkar, c/o Commandant (G-MMS-2), 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593, tel., (202) 267-2988</p>
MARSIM '96	<p>Title: International Conference on Marine Simulation and Ship Maneuverability</p> <p>Sponsor: Danish Maritime Institute, Danish Maritime Authority, Association of Danish Shipbuilders, and Danish Shipowners' Association</p> <p>Date: September 8-13, 1996</p> <p>Location: Copenhagen Sheraton Hotel, Copenhagen, Denmark</p> <p>Contact: Conference Secretary, DIS Congress Service Copenhagen, Herlev Ringvej 2C, DK-2730 Herlev, tel.: +45 44 92 44 92, fax: +45 44 92 50 50. Please direct abstracts to Erik Kasper, Danish Maritime Institute, Hjortekaersvej 99, DK-45 87 93 25, fax: +45 45 87 93 33.</p>
Tanker Legislation	<p>Title: Tanker Legislation 96</p> <p>Sponsor: Marine Log</p> <p>Date: September 17-18, 1996</p> <p>Location: Washington Marriott Hotel, Washington, DC</p> <p>Contact: Jane Poterala, Marine Log, Tel: (212) 620-7209, Fax: (212) 633-1165</p>
USMSA Fish Expo Seattle	<p>Title: Fish Expo Seattle</p> <p>Sponsor: U.S. Marine Safety Association</p> <p>Date: September 26-28, 1996</p> <p>Location: Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA</p> <p>Contact: Diversified Expositions at (207) 842-5508</p>
Training Seafarers for the Next Century	<p>Title: Training Seafarers for the Next Century</p> <p>Sponsor: The Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies, Calhoun MEBA Engineering School and International Maritime Organization (IMO)</p> <p>Date: September 30 - October 2, 1996</p> <p>Location: Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies, Linthicum Heights, Maryland</p> <p>Contact: MITAGS 5700 Hammonds Ferry Road, Linthicum Heights, MD 21090, tel., (410) 859-5700 or Fax., (410) 859-0942</p>
Shipbuilding, Machinery and Marine Technology	<p>Title: Shipbuilding, Machinery and Marine Technology Exhibition and Conference</p> <p>Sponsor: Shipbuilding, Machinery and Marine Technology</p> <p>Date: October 1-5, 1996</p> <p>Location: Hamburg Messe und Congress GmbH</p> <p>Contact: Hamburg Messe, P.O. Box 30 24 80 D-20308 Hamburg, Tel: (4940) 3569-0, Fax: (4940) 3569-2149</p>

EVENTS (CONT'D)

International Association for Sea Survival Training Fourth International Conference

Title: Fourth International Conference of the International Association for Sea Survival Training
Sponsor: Texas A&M University System, Center for Marine Training and Safety
Date: October 10-11, 1996
Location: San Luis Hotel, Galveston, Texas
Contact: Keith Palmer, tel. (409) 740-4807 or fax. (409) 744-2890

The International Market for Marine Environment and Safety

Title: Market Mechanisms for Safer Shipping and Cleaner Oceans
Sponsor: Erasmus Forum and Ectal the Centre for Transport and Logistics
Date: October 10-12, 1996
Location: Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Contact: Erasmus Forum, Ms. K. Gikas Project Assistant, Ms. M. de Leeuw Conference Manager, Tel: 31 10 408 10 98 or Fax: 31 10 453 07 84

The Third Seatrade Convention

Title: The Third Seatrade Tanker Industry Convention
Sponsor: International Association of Independent Tanker Owners
Date: October 29-30, 1996
Location: Royal Lancaster Hotel, London, UK
Contact: Seatrade Organization, tel.: +44 1026 45121, fax: +44 1206 45190

SSC/SNAME Symposium '96

Title: Human and Organizational Errors in Marine Structures - A Quest for Quality in Design, Construction, and Maintenance
Sponsor: Ship Structure Committee (SSC) and Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers
Date: November 18-20, 1996
Location: Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, Virginia
Contact: Papers should be sent to Papers Committee Chairman, Al Attermeyer, Military Sealift Command, Code CTA N731, 901 M Street SE., Washington, DC 20398-5540, tel.: (202) 685-5210 or fax: (202) 685-5223.

The Seamen's Church Institute

Title: Workboat Conference
Sponsor: The Seamen's Church Institute
Date: November, 1996
Location: The Seamen's Church Institute of New York and New Jersey, 241 Water Street, New York, New York 10038
Contact: Andrea Laine (212) 349-9090 ext-243, Fax: (212) 349-8342

1997 International Oil Spill Conference

Title: 1997 International Oil Spill Conference Improving Environmental Protection Progress, Challenges, Responsibilities
Sponsor: USCG, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, American Petroleum Institute, International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association, International Maritime Organization
Date: April 7-10, 1997
Location: Fort Lauderdale Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Contact: CDR Mark Johnson, tel., (202) 267-6860

EVENTS (CONT'D)

SNAME Annual Meetings

Title: SNAME Annual Meetings and International Maritime Expositions
Sponsor: The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers
Date: October 2-5, 1996
Location: Marriott Marquis Hotel, New York City
Date: October 15-19, 1997
Location: Westin Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Date: November 9-14, 1998
Location: Doubletree Inn at Horton Plaza and San Diego Concourse (Exposition) San Diego, California
Date: September 28 - October 2, 1999
Location: Baltimore Hyatt Regency at Inner Harbor and Baltimore Convention Center (Exposition) Baltimore, Maryland
Contact: SNAME, 601 Pavonia Ave., Jersey City, NJ 07306 tel.: (201) 798-4800

ISM Seminars

Title: ISM Seminars
Sponsor: American Bureau of Shipping
Location: Various cities worldwide
Contact: Local ABS Office for specific information on dates and locations.

ISO 9000 Training Classes

Title: World Class ISO 9000 Training
Sponsor: CEEM Inc. and British Standards Institution
Contact: CEEM Inc., 10521 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22032-2236, tel.: (703) 250-5900 or (800) 745-5565.

CALENDARS

ISM CODE	1-4 Apr 96
Safety at Sea and Marine Electronics Conferences and Exhibition	
First American International Shipbuilding Exposition	11-13 Apr 96
IIW Shipbuilding Seminar	17-19 Apr 96
Earth Day	22 Apr 96
ICHCA-USA Seminar	24 Apr 96
Advisory Council Meeting	27-29 Apr 96
.....	30 Apr, 1-2 May 96
Regulatory Update '96'	7 May 96
Responding '96.....	7 May 96
Third International Summit on Safety at Sea	14-15 May 96
Tanker Operations	14-17 May 96
Advanced Tanker	20-23 May 96
Charter Parties, Laytime, and Demurrage	21-23 May 96
Well Control Conferences: Well Control-Europe	22-24 May 96
MSC 66	28 May 96

CALENDARS (CONT'D)

Regulatory Update 96'	6 Jun 96
.....	6-7 Jun 96
Coast Guard Auxiliary Day	23 Jun 96
USMSA Safety Seminar	24-26 Jun 96
MEPC 38	1-10 Jul 96
Regulatory Update 96'	10 Jul 96
Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF) user Seminar	23-24 Jul 96
Well Control Conferences: Well Control-Americas	1-2 Aug 96
Coast Guard Day	4 Aug 96
International Conference	22-23 Aug 96
Sub-Committee on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels Safety (SFL-40)	2-6 Sep 96
International Conference Safe Ship	4-5 Sep 96
Regulatory Update 96'	11 Sep 96
MARSIM '96	08-13 Sep 96
Exercising Why, When, and How: Gearing Up Your Crisis Management Program	19-23 Sep 96
USMASA Fish Expo Seattle	26-28 Sep 96
Training Seafarers for the Next Century	30 Sep-2 Oct 96
Shipbuilding, Machinery and Marine Technology Exhibition and Conference	1-5 Oct 96
Regulatory Update 96'	9 Oct 96
Fourth International Conference of the International Association for Sea Survival Training	10-11 Oct 96
Market Mechanisms for Safer Shipping and Cleaner Oceans	10-12 Oct 96
The Third Seatrade Convention	29-30 Oct 96
Workboat Conference	Nov 96
Exercising Why, When, and How: Gearing Up Your Crisis Management Program	5-9 Nov 96
Regulatory Update 96'	12 Nov 96
Regulatory Update 96'	14 Nov 96
SSC/SNAME Symposium '96	18-20 Nov 96
MSC 67	2-5 Dec 96
USMSA Annual Meeting	4-5 Dec 96
SASMEX	Apr 97
1997 Oil Spill Conference	7-10 Apr 97
ASTM F25 Annual Meetings	21-23 May 96
.....	10-12 Dec 96
.....	6-8 May 97
.....	9-11 Dec 97
.....	3-8 May 98
.....	6-11 Dec 98
.....	16-21 May 99
.....	5-10 Dec 99
SNAME Annual Meetings	2-5 Oct 96
.....	15-19 Oct 97
.....	9-14 Nov 98
.....	28 Sep-02 Oct 99

CALENDARS (CONT'D)

Shipping Coordinating Committee and U.S. SOLAS Working Group Meetings

Working Group on STCW Convention 10 June 96

IMO Meetings in London

International Conference on Hazardous and Noxious Substances and

Limitation of Liability 15 Apr 3 May 96

London Convention 1972 Scientific Group 13 May 96

2nd International Research and Development Forum 23 May 96

Maritime Safety Committee 66 28 May - 6 Jun 96

Council 17-21 Jun 96

Technical Co-Operation Committee 20 Jun 96

92 Fund Assembly

71 Fund Assembly 24-28 Jun 96

Marine Environment Protection Committee 38th 1-10 Jul 96

Subcommittee on Safety of Navigation (NAV) 15-19 Jul 96

Subcommittee on Stability and Load Line and on Fishing Vessels Safety (SFL) 2-6 Sep 96

Sub-Committee on Standard of Training and Watchkeeping (STW) 16-20 Sep 96

Subcommittee on Fire Protection 30 Sep-4 Oct 96

Legal Committee 14-18 Oct 96

71 Fund Assembly, 92 Fund Assembly 21-25 Oct 96

London Convention Diplomatic Conference 28 Oct, 8 Nov 96

Council 18-22 Nov 96

Technical Co-Operation Committee 21 Nov 96

Maritime Safety Committee 2-6 Dec 96

Dates in italic are tentative.

PHONE LIST

Marine Safety Alert (800) 323-7233/(202) 267-8592

National Response Center (800) 424-8802/(202) 267-2165

Marine Safety Center (202) 366-3877

Vessel Documentation Center (304) 271-2502

National Strike Force Center (919) 331-6000

Gulf Strike Team (334) 639-6001

Pacific Strike Team (415) 883-3311

Atlantic Strike Team (609) 724-0008

National Pollution Funds Center (703) 235-4700

Marine Safety Manual (703) 235-1605

NVICs (703) 235-1605

Marine Safety Newsletter (703) 235-1865

Proceedings Magazine (703) 235-1604

Pollution Prevention (202) 267-1181

Spill Investigation (202) 267-0419

More phone numbers can be found on the WWW at: <http://www.dot.gov/dotinfo/uscg/hq/g-m/gmhome.htm>

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